

Fri. Dec. 13 - 68,

*Here in* New York City - Richard Nixon conferred today with William Scranton - who has just returned from a Mid East fact finding tour. Others who joined in the talks including - Secretary of State-designate William Rogers; the President-elect's new foreign policy advisor, Henry Kissinger; <sup>veteran</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>pundit</sup> ~~the~~ also, columnist Walter Lippman.

Afterward ~~a~~ <sup>at a</sup> ~~secret~~ press conference, ~~The~~ former governor of Pennsylvania reported ~~ed~~ ~~that~~ he had found the Arab world ~~was~~ not totally committed to the eradication of the Jewish state. "They can live with a non-expansionist Israel" - said he. <sup>The</sup> ~~added~~ <sup>added</sup>, however, ~~that~~ the Mid-East remains - an "extremely explosive part of the world." "If there is not a peaceful settlement in the very near future" - said he - "the threat of raids and counter-raids will increase."

LONDON

~~Reverse side~~ <sup>we hear of</sup> From London ~~where~~ Israeli  
foreign minister Abba Eban <sup>meeting</sup> ~~met~~ today with British  
officials. <sup>Then</sup> Later telling newsmen - the Middle East is not  
nearly the tinder box ~~that~~ some would have us believe.  
"The cease fire is not on the verge of collapse" - <sup>said he,</sup> "nor is  
the Middle East on the verge of explosion." - ~~said he.~~

What about prospects for peace then? We'll know  
more on that - said Eban - with the start of another U N  
peace effort around the middle of next month. In the  
meantime though - he rejected flatly any suggestion of a  
phased withdrawal from conquered territory. "There can  
be phased negotiations" - said he - "but no phased  
withdrawal."

ATLANTA

Tonight the word is that

^ The entire U S A is on the verge of an epidemic of Hong Kong flu. This according to word ~~today~~ from the National Communicable Disease Center at Atlanta, Reporting outbreaks of the new flu strain - in at least thirty-three states; ~~as of now.~~ With the rest - expected to get it shortly.

So far - about seven hundred deaths - attributed at least in part to the Hong Kong flu, With <sup>the Rocky Mountain</sup> ~~states~~ <sup>states</sup> ~~perhaps~~ the hardest hit, <sup>upto now.</sup> ~~Presently suffering from a~~ ~~border to border outbreak of the virus~~ For the rest of ~~us.~~ <sup>generally</sup> The peak of the epidemic is expected around mid-January; as holiday travellers continue to spread the bug - far and wide.

*One more* set back at Paris. - ~~one more time~~ U. S. and North Vietnamese negotiators meeting today - in an attempt to agree on procedural details for expanded peace talks, *and* only to fail again - to reach an accommodation. In the end - both sides agreeing merely to - go on "thinking about the proposals."

Meanwhile the war goes on. With <sup>the</sup> enemy ~~troops~~ sacking and burning a South Vietnamese hamlet ~~today~~ - *and* ~~too,~~ shelling a provincial capitol, *and* in a series of ground attacks ~~within~~ within seventy miles of Saigon.



## CAPE KENNEDY

Final count down for America's Apollo Eight moonshot - now set to begin this Sunday. Space officials at Cape Kennedy - moving ~~up~~ the timetable by a full day following completion of <sup>a</sup> preliminary check three days ahead of schedule.

The idea - to permit a little leeway in case of any unexpected problem. A space spokesman saying: "We have this extra time - and we're going to use it." Adding, however, that scheduled blast-off - is still Saturday next.

~~We hope.~~

A century old dispute between the United States and Mexico - settled with a <sup>loud</sup> bang today. With President Johnson and Mexican President Diaz - coming together at the international border between El Paso, Texas and Juarez, Mexico. - There setting off a charge of explosives to diverting the Rio Grande into a new man-made channel.

Result: Mexico regaining clear and unfettered title to the Chamizal - ~~the Hametz~~ a clump of land which is now once again - south of the border. Or in this case - south of the Rio <sup>Grande</sup> - same thing.

## MINNEAPOLIS

*After an absence of nearly a quarter of a century - it appears that Hubert Humphrey will be returning soon to the grove of academe. At Minneapolis today - the University of Minnesota joining with Macalester College - to offer the Vice President a dual faculty position. This followed by a report from Humphrey's office in Washington - that "quite likely" he will accept.*

## PARIS

From Paris comes news ~~today~~ of another student riot - with a novel French twist.

Place - the Paris University Annex at Nanterre. Cradle of student and worker strikes last summer / that nearly toppled the DeGaulle government. Today's demonstration - drawing about three thousand students. *This* A protest against the arrest of two coeds - in connection with a recent series of bombings.

Only this time - the students fell to fighting among themselves. Militant French Communists - battling even more militant Stalinists, Maoists, anarchists and others. Leaving police with nothing to do but just watch.



Next up - the story of a Christmas Party - rather unusual, to say the least - reported ~~today~~ from suburban Stockholm. The guest list - numbering nine. All men - <sup>had just</sup> ~~recent~~ graduated <sup>from</sup> of a Santa Claus school, <sup>And</sup> all ~~of them~~ dressed in red and white Santa outfits, <sup>they were</sup> Having such a gay-old-time <sup>that</sup> the police were ~~finally~~ called. Hauling the whole bunch off to the Hoosgow - for disturbing the peace.

The trouble? ~~it seems, in the fact~~ the Santas evidently too merry because they had had too ~~followed their Ho Ho Ho's with a bottle of rum, or some~~ ~~such~~ much schnapsa, aqua vite and so on, shouting ho! ho! ho! so they could be heard all the way from Stockholm to Uppalla and half way to Ostersund.  
Ho ho ho and skoll to you,  
Warren!

## ENDING

Remember when all the inhabitants of Tristan da Cunha were taken from their little island after the eruption of their volcano? That was back in 1963. All two hundred and sixty-four of the people were picked up at that remote spot in the <sup>Far</sup> South Atlantic and taken to the British Isles. <sup>However</sup> ~~but~~ they all preferred to go back to their lonely, lonely island, and live right there at the foot of that unpredictable volcano. ~~But~~ They had no money, <sup>so how</sup> to finance ~~however~~ their return? <sup>From</sup> ~~so we hear from~~ the National Geographic, <sup>we hear they raised the funds</sup> ~~was financed~~ by the sale of ~~postage stamps~~ special <sup>volcano</sup> Tristan da Cunha postage stamps. ~~How's that for an odd item?~~ <sup>happily</sup> And now they are all back on their lonely lava island at the ~~foot of~~ base of that <sup>is</sup> almost sure to blow its top again one of these days.

And - s-l. Monday.